

FBIS

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REPORTAGE ON RIVER PLATE MINISTERS' MEETING

River Plate Resolutions

PY172056 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 16 Nov 81 p 8

[Summary of resolutions approved at the 12th conference of the foreign ministers of the River Plate Basin countries in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, on 11, 12 and 13 November 1981 -- by special correspondent Alejandro Escobar]

[Excerpt] The following is a summary of the agreements reached according to the Santa Cruz act:

1. To acknowledge the report submitted by the Intergovernmental Coordination Committee [Comite Intergubernamental Coordinador -- CIC] and express satisfaction and congratulations to the CIC for the work it has done, extending that satisfaction also to the General Secretariat.
 2. To recommend that the member countries send the CIC complete lists of organizations specialized in schistosomiasis. They should also take steps to organize a seminar on schistosomiasis in the country that can offer the most adequate conditions and resources.
 3. To recognize the capacity of advisers at the River Plate Basin foreign ministers' meetings of the executive directors and deputy executive directors of the River Plate Basin Development Finance Fund. To authorize the executive secretary to attend the foreign ministers' meetings as a consultant. To incorporate what has been stipulated in the previous paragraphs into the regulations for the foreign ministers' meetings under the title "Participation of the River Plate Basin Development Finance Fund."
 4. To summon during 1981 one or more joint meetings of the CIC with high-level government experts, when believed suitable, to evaluate the report on the activation of the River Plate Basin system by means of a thorough analysis of the institutional aspects referred to in Resolution No 159. At the same time to evaluate the report, establish an order of priorities and to determine the courses of action.
- To make a study in order to deepen and improve the goals and work methods mentioned in that report with the aim of guiding the execution of the definitive order of priorities which may be submitted. To undertake in said study a general evaluation of the organization and function of the CIC and its secretariat. To bring up to date the degree of fulfillment of the resolutions passed at the foreign ministers' meetings. The CIC should report to the 13th foreign ministers' meeting on all it has accomplished.
5. To entrust the CIC, taking into account the recommendations made by the work groups of the relevant basic areas, with the enforcement of Resolutions 144, 160, 162 and 167. Also to entrust the CIC with reporting to the 13th and subsequent foreign ministers' meetings on the results of the actions undertaken during the various stages, as well as proposals regarding new initiatives which have become necessary.
 6. To declare the studies, investigations, prospecting, tests and programs aimed at the finding, analysis, evaluation and better use of mineral wealth to be of priority interest for the development of the River Plate Basin.
 7. To extend the scope of Resolution No 153 to the remaining international rivers of the River Plate Basin system. This measure refers to the control of the Paraguay River flooding.
 8. To consider of priority interest for the River Plate Basin the building of Rio Grande station-Rio Mamorecillo branch line of the Santa Cruz-Trinidad railway (in Bolivia).

9. To entrust the CIC with calling together a meeting of experts to examine the needs expressed by the member countries regarding the establishment of an adequate hydro-meteorological network. At the request of the interested countries the CIC should ask international organizations for necessary cooperation toward the implementation of its projects in accordance with the recommendations of the experts' meeting.

10. To declare of interest for River Plate Basin development the establishment of common customs rules to be applied to international transport.

11. To declare the development of the ICIA hydroelectric project to be of priority interest. This project -- let us add -- has a connection with the use of the Pilcomayo River for which the Asuncion Declaration, Resolution No 25, regarding the use of international rivers, established basic principles.

12. To declare of priority interest the carrying out of engineering studies for the gas pipeline Ramos (Argentina)-Bermejo-Emborozu-Tarija City-El Puente, (Bolivia).

13. To entrust the CIC with having the member countries remit compilations of their rules in force for river transport for the purpose of a meeting of experts before the 13th foreign ministers' meeting.

Valdes Otero Press Conference

PY141734 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Text] In a press conference he held yesterday afternoon, Uruguayan Foreign Minister Estanislao Valdes Otero said that Uruguay believes that the OAS is the proper forum to achieve a solution to Bolivia's maritime problem. He noted that the OAS provides the proper atmosphere for achieving a bilateral understanding between the Chilean and Bolivian Governments.

[Begin Santa Cruz relay] In a press conference Uruguayan Foreign Minister Estanislao Valdes has noted that the River Plate Basin integration process has been strengthened with the Santa Cruz Declaration. During his meeting with the press, the Uruguayan representative, moreover, noted, that his country believes that the OAS provides the proper atmosphere for achieving a bilateral agreement that will solve Bolivia's maritime problem.

The Uruguayan foreign minister held a press conference a little after the end of a meeting he held with his colleagues from Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil, to discuss the terms of the Santa Cruz act signed on Friday.

During the press conference the Uruguayan foreign minister said that the River Plate Basin integration process does not compete with other integration processes in the area, such as LAIA [Latin American Integration Association] or URUPABOL [Permanent Joint Commission of Uruguay, Paraguay and Bolivia]. Regarding political issues, he said that he could not refer to the present democratic opening process in Uruguay since this is an exclusively domestic issue. [end relay]

Representing their governments, Uruguayan Foreign Minister Estanislao Valdes Otero and Bolivian Foreign Minister Gonzalo Romero Alvarez Garcia signed a bilateral agreement which will strengthen bilateral ties and develop trade and technical assistance programs in many fields.

The Uruguayan foreign minister also referred to this agreement in the press conference he held at the 12th River Plate Basin foreign ministers' conference.

[Begin Santa Cruz relay] He also disclosed an agreement signed with his Bolivian colleague, Gonzalo Romero, aimed at strengthening bilateral trade, providing technical assistance and improving the transportation system of the two countries.

[Begin recording of unidentified voice] The communique reads as follows:

His Excellency Uruguayan Foreign Minister Estanislao Valdes Otero and His Excellency Bolivian Foreign Minister Gonzalo Romero Alvarez Garcia, and their respective advisors, held a meeting on 13 November 1981 in Santa Cruz de la Sierra to study the possibilities of strengthening bilateral economic ties with the objective of achieving a more effective operation of the permanent joint coordination committee that has been established through notes signed on 10 August 1974.

After a cordial and fruitful discussion their excellencies agreed to undertake specific and prompt actions. Consequently, the joint commission will hold a meeting in Santa Cruz de la Sierra no later than February 1982 to discuss the following subjects:

1. Improvement of the transportation system of the two countries;
2. Promotion of bilateral trade with the participation of the private sectors of the two countries;
3. Granting technical assistance in areas of common interest. [end recording] [end relay]

Moreover, according to a report supplied by our special correspondent, the Uruguayan Government maintains cordial relations with all nations of the Americas and it has expressed its hope that the Beagle conflict will be solved through a bilateral dialogue between Chile and Argentina.

[Begin Santa Cruz relay] Uruguayan Foreign Minister Estanislao Valdes also noted that his country maintains cordial relations with all nations of the world [as heard] regardless of their political nature. Moreover, he noted his hope that the Beagle issue will be solved in a satisfactory manner. [end relay]

Camilion Reply to Paraguay

PY130351 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0348 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Santa Cruz, 11 Nov (LATIN-REUTER) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Oscar Camilion has stated that his country is willing to solve the problem created by the work that had to be done to control overflows of the Pilcomayo River. Paraguay protested here today about this problem. Replying to the protest voiced by Paraguayan Foreign Minister Alberto Nogues, the Argentine foreign minister said that the Pilcomayo river has a capricious course and seasonal overflows that cause much damage.

Deploing that Paraguay brought up this problem at the meeting of foreign ministers of the River Plate Basin countries, Camilion said that such problems should be resolved with a spirit of mutual cooperation and a determination to obtain the best results. He added that Argentina stands ready for that kind of cooperation.

Minister Camilion affirmed that his country had made large expenditures to neutralize the effects of deforestation and land clearings which this past winter caused the Pilcomayo River to overflow its right bank.

ITAMARATY POSITION ON NONINTERVENTION SCORED

PY172034 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Nov 81 p 3

[From "Notes and Information" page: "Lack of Will and 'Universalism'"]

[Text] The condemnation of intervention by Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro in Santa Cruz de la Sierra -- where he participated in another meeting of River Plate Basin foreign ministers -- simply emphasizes, without adding anything new, Itamaraty's position of alienation regarding events in Central America. This is especially so now that the U.S. government is hinting at the adoption of measures -- what and when nobody knows -- to contain the advance of Castroite-Sandinist adventurism in that region. Because of the occasion in which the condemnation was made it sounded as a warning (!) to the extent that the U.S. Government was served notice that the Brazilian authorities are not inclined to change the position adopted during the crisis which ended up with Nicaragua's takeover by the Sandinists. That the situation in El Salvador might, over the medium term, crop up in South America, jeopardizing the tranquillity which Itamaraty seems to feel about our border, does not matter much. The fundamental point is that the Brazilian Government should mark its position condemning interventions and reaffirmation of not having hegemonic intentions and its preference for democratic regimes in this continent which suffers the shackles of authoritarian, if not outright dictatorial, regimes. Because it has failed to reconcile in practice two antithetical positions, Brazil strongly condemns military intervention, but does not know what to do about surreptitious interventions. Worse yet, although it condemns intervention, Brazil does not know what to do when intervention occurs. Nor does it have the effective instruments to assist those who are victims of the action it condemns. In other words, trapped in the narrow logic of its positions, Brazil's diplomacy simply opts for isolation when in reality it wants to exert its influence, at least through "the agreement of its line of action with the real interests of the majority of states." Translating properly, this means that it wants to exercise its influence through a low profile policy!

In fact, Brazil's withdrawal within its borders -- currently masked under the pompous label of universalist diplomacy -- results from the realization of our limited power, both our effective and our potential power. Since he was charged with conducting the diplomacy of noninvolvement following the period of "great power chauvinism," Minister Saraiva Guerreiro himself knows the limitations imposed by the scarcity of our means to wield external influence, by our incapacity to affect the fate of the international system "in the same way it affects Brazil's everyday life" and by our structural dependency on technology, capital and oil imports. Not only these limitations prompt Itamaraty to imagine that noninvolvement should be the Brazilian -- and genuine -- way of conducting diplomacy. Certainly Itamaraty is also persuaded to imagine so by the small dimensions of the foreign perspective of our country due to its structural dependency, and even more importantly, by the fear that Latin America might consider us an agent of a third party -- meaning the United States -- and thus forced to assume responsibility for conflicts or disputes whose origin we do not control.

Isolated and concerned with being responsible only for what it can control, the Brazilian Government does not seem to realize that, not having any suggestion on how to resolve the crisis that is crawling toward its borders, it will inevitably slide into a neutralism with all the trappings of anti-Americanism. Perhaps the lack of will to break up the vicious circle of condemning intervention and not being willing to assist the victims is the most notorious feature distinguishing the universalist diplomacy from the other labels used in the past to rationalize our lack of commitment to the West.

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS ARGENTINE COUNTERPART

PY171958 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0005 GMT 17 Nov 81

[By special envoy Juan Jose Marc]

[Text] Lima, 16 Nov (TELAM) -- Today Peruvian Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella and his Argentine counterpart Oscar Camilion held a long meeting at the Torre Tagle Palace. Camilion, who arrived at the Peruvian Foreign Ministry at 1000, left at 1230 after holding a 45-minute private meeting with Arias Stella. He then joined the meeting of the members of the two countries' work commission. At the end of the meeting the Peruvian foreign minister stated that the Argentine Republic is deeply interested in 'shortly establishing a closer relationship with the subregional Andean Group. In this regard, an Argentine source disclosed that Peru has voiced its willingness to act as the linking country between Argentina and the agreement signed on 26 May 1969. Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela are members of the agreement at present.

The source pointed out that in 1982 the [words indistinct] of foreign ministers of the Andean Pact and Argentina, according to initial arrangements, was supposed to be held in August 1980. Due to the situation which arose in Bolivia the meeting never took place. It will probably be held in Buenos Aires. This meeting to be held in Buenos Aires had been provided for in an action program drawn up in Santa Cruz de la Sierra in May 1979 when the Cartagena Agreement Council of Ministers was created. The council also scheduled a meeting with the Brazilian foreign minister. That meeting took place in the city of Lima before the change of the Bolivian Government.

During the meeting between the Argentine and Peruvian foreign ministers, Arias Stella stated his country's position regarding the Antarctic and disclosed Peru's intention to carry out scientific investigations necessary to achieve its full incorporation into the treaty signed in Washington in 1959. At the end of the meeting Arias Stella stated that a very promising possibility surfaced that Peru, in compliance with the cooperation agreement signed with Argentina, will have a more active participation in the activities being carried out on the white continent.

In order to fully incorporate itself to the aforementioned scientific investigations treaty and, according to observers, to make this issue effective, Peru is trying to obtain firm Argentine support. This support will allow the shipment of Peruvian missions together with some of the regular Argentine missions to that part of the Antarctic over which Argentina currently has territorial possession. Unofficial Argentine spokesmen have disclosed that Argentina has a positive attitude regarding all the Peruvian proposals in this regard. They also disclosed that as a result of these meetings, Buenos Aires will study an effective and adequate formula to grant its cooperation in a realistic manner. The two foreign ministers also discussed the agenda for the upcoming OAS General Assembly to be held in St Lucia. They decided on some points for joint action during the assembly. According to information released by some of the persons who attended the meeting, the domestic policy of the two countries was not discussed at any point. The Peruvian minister referred to the favorable development of Peruvian-Ecuadorian relations by pointing out that they are approaching a normalization which becomes more and more evident. He disclosed some of the joint projects for border integration being carried out to prevent new conflicts in that area which was the scene of a violent clash in February.

According to well-informed sources from Torre Tagle Palace, in referring to Peru's relations with Latin American countries Arias Stella pointed out the Peruvian intention to achieve an ever-increasing relationship with Bolivia. He also voiced the satisfaction of the Peruvian Government over the positive evolution observed in Bolivia, which now shows greater stability. Arias Stella also voiced his interest in learning about the development of the papal mediation in the southern border conflict over the Beagle Channel between Argentina and Chile. Camilion pointed out that it is developing favorably and that it has great significance for peace in the Southern Cone. The two foreign ministers also jointly analyzed the possibility of signing, before the Argentine minister ends his visit, a letter of intent aimed at an agroindustrial cooperation agreement to carry out the projects discussed by the two countries.

COSTA RICANICARAGUA'S SERGIO RAMIREZ ARRIVES ON VISIT

Meets With Carazo

PA171938 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the junta of the Government of Nicaragua, arrived in the country this morning at 0950. He was greeted by President Rodrigo Carazo, Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus and Minister of the Presidency Jose Rafael Cordero Croceri.

The purpose of his visit is to strengthen Nicaragua's ties of friendship with the people and Government of Costa Rica. This is a permanent interest of both our people and our government, Ramirez said.

Ramirez is accompanied by Rodrigo Reyes, minister-secretary of the junta of the Government of Nicaragua, and by security agents.

Ramirez was asked about the Nicaraguan Government's response to statements made by U.S. Vice President George Bush to the effect that Nicaragua should avoid very close relations with Cuba. He responded: We choose our own friends. That is why we are in Costa Rica, because the government and the people of this country are the Nicaraguans' friends, Ramirez added.

Referring to the incidents on the border with Honduras, Ramirez said: We are trying to solve them and we are not provoking them, as some have tried to say. Ramirez admitted that the situation with the United States is tense but said that the Nicaraguan Government wants normal relations with that country. Many things are involved, but we intend to establish normal relations, he said.

As we all know, Nicaragua's ambassador to Washington was removed a week ago [as heard] and it is expected that there will be a change in the two nations' relations.

Right now the member of the junta of the Government of Nicaragua is meeting with President Rodrigo Carazo. It has been reported that the two will analyze the Central American political situation and that the Costa Rican president will be given a report on the latest internal developments in Nicaragua. Ramirez will also explain his government's position toward international reports on its policies.

In the afternoon, Ramirez will have a working luncheon with presidential candidate Luis Alberto Monge Alvarez of the National Liberation Party [PLN]. According to Ramirez, he and Monge will discuss the Central American situation generally and Nicaraguan-Costa Rican relations.

As far as we know, former President Jose Figueres Ferrer, who has always supported the Sandinist regime, will also participate in this meeting.

The Nicaraguan delegation led by Sergio Ramirez will leave the country early tomorrow. A press conference has been scheduled for this afternoon. In the evening Ramirez will have other meetings and will participate in social activities with government officials. Ramirez and his retinue are traveling in an executive jet plane.

[Begin live relay] And now, a report from the presidential house:

The meeting between Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the junta of the Government of Nicaragua, and President Rodrigo Carazo has just concluded. Ramirez has not said much to the press since his arrival in the country, noting that this is just a courtesy visit and that he will talk with journalists during a press conference at 1700.

Meanwhile, President Carazo said that they had discussed three basic subjects, including debts incurred by the two countries' importers and exporters. He said that Ramirez noted his satisfaction at once again being in our country. But let President Carazo himself give us the details of the three main topics of today's meeting:

[Begin Carazo recording] I had the opportunity to discuss three main topics with Nicaragua. They were included in a working memorandum that will be the starting point for a review of bilateral trade, reciprocal payments -- since there are many problems in debts that have to be canceled both here and there -- and the implementation of trade with the participation of specialized organizations from both governments.

In this regard, our economy, industry and commerce minister; and Vice President Alfaro, who also participated, agreed that two Nicaraguan Government officials who are in Costa Rica -- both of them have the last name of (Solorzano) -- will work in the preparation of programs to solve this problem.

We also had the good news from the representative of the junta of the government that Nicaragua will cooperate with the University for Peace. Of course, we also spoke about Central American politics. I would prefer that Sergio, during his press conference this afternoon with the local media, tell the newsmen what he told me. I am sure he will do this in a suitable manner, and I would only be interpreting his statements.

Sergio Ramirez also told me that he is happy to be visiting our country. He very courteously told me that he will hold meetings with local politicians. Just as he met with a presidential candidate in the past few months, he will meet with a different one today. He will also meet with a delegation of Costa Rican businessmen in his embassy.

This is his program for his 1-day stay in Costa Rica. [end recording]

Ramirez will be holding a meeting in a few minutes with presidential candidate Luis Alberto Monge Alvarez. At 1600 he is to meet with former President Jose Figueres, top PLN leader. As we reported before and as President Carazo has confirmed, Ramirez will meet with a group of businessmen and finally, at 1700, he will hold a press conference. Tomorrow he will return to Managua, Nicaragua. [end live relay]

Holds News Conference

PA180318 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Report by William Céspedes at Presidential House in San Jose -- live]

[Text] Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the junta of the Nicaraguan National Reconstruction Government, who has been in Costa Rica all day, announced he would hold a press conference at 1700. However, the press conference didn't begin until 1800.

Ramirez Mercado met today with Luis Alberto Monge, presidential candidate of the National Liberation Party [PLN], with whom he analyzed the international situation, particularly the political conflicts in Central America. He also held a 2-hour meeting with Jose Figueres, former Costa Rican president and top leader of the PLN.

During the press conference, one of the most important questions he answered dealt with Nicaraguan-U.S. relations. Here is Ramirez Mercado's statement on relations with the U.S. Government:

[Begin recording] The United States cannot accept the fact that a poor and small country like Nicaragua has chosen the path of revolution and that we maintain a spirit of independence and sovereignty after it controlled Nicaragua through the Somoziist dictatorship for almost half a century. The respect of our sovereignty [words indistinct] a powerful country like the United States [words indistinct].

we are not interested in the further deterioration of this relationship but we are seeking a way to reestablish it. [Words indistinct] that the United States is a world power or that it is geographically so close to Central America. We can't do anything to achieve a change in that situation. Therefore, the path that we have chosen is that of understanding but an understanding based on respect for our dignity as a sovereign and free country [words indistinct].

We are truly concerned about the way in which high-ranking officials of the U.S. administration launch all types of attacks against Nicaragua. It is said that we are going to be strangled, that we are going to be invaded, that Nicaragua won't continue to be tolerated. It seems that sometimes the only choice that we are given is the manner of death of our revolution. We want (?it to be clear) that our revolution is not willing to choose any manner of death but that we are determined to struggle for our country's survival. In this way, we are going to do everything possible to build a constructive relationship of peace with the United States.

[Words indistinct] the charges that we are exporters of revolution and exporters of weapons have never been proven. No evidence has been presented. The size of the lies are [word indistinct]. It is said that we have received 1,000 planes from Vietnam. For a poor country like Nicaragua, the maintenance of 1,000 planes [words indistinct]. It is said that 600 Cuban soldiers who destroyed the Oro Bridge in El Salvador passed through Nicaragua and that these 600 Cuban soldiers were transported by helicopters (?in a military operation). One would need to see how many helicopters would be needed to transport 600 soldiers who, according to the report, (?disappeared in) the Nicaraguan jungle. There isn't any jungle around Managua. The jungle is very far away from the capital.

It is also said that it has been discovered that Nicaraguan airplanes are the ones dropping supplies to guerrilla camps in El Salvador because the tails of these airplanes are painted red and black and, therefore, they are Nicaraguan planes.

International dispatches present these as serious arguments based on statements of some officials of the Department of State. What we are demanding at this time is (?seriousness regarding our country). [end recording]

Those were some of the remarks made by Sergio Ramirez Mercado, who is in Costa Rica for a 24-hour visit. He has met with political and government leaders and representatives of the private sector.

Regarding the imprisonment of several members of the Nicaraguan private sector, Ramirez Mercado said that his government has also acted in a similar manner against those radical groups which, like the businessmen, don't agree with the orientation of the Sandinist government. He said that all of them have been placed at the disposal of the courts because they have created situations which are somewhat dangerous for the continuation of Nicaragua's reconstruction within the Sandinist revolution.

EL SALVADOR

GARCIA EXPECTS MORE U.S. MILITARY, ECONOMIC AID

PA180400 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 16 Nov 81 p 1

[Text] At a news conference today, Defense Minister Col Jose Guillermo Garcia announced that the (U.S.) secretary of state, Gen Alexander Haig, "is a very sharp and practical man and his views on the Salvadoran problem coincide with ours. This implies that there will be more military and economic aid for our country." Accompanied by Under Secretary of Defense Col Francisco Adolfo Castillo and Chief of Staff Col Rafael Flores Lima, he said the armed forces "wants the subversives to show their face and fight it out and thus avoid further sorrow and problems for the Salvadoran people."

VENCEREMOS COVERS FMLN POLITICAL-MILITARY MEETING

PA170419 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 16 Nov 81

[Text] Now we have a report on the political-military event held at the (Rafael Antonio Arce Sabla) Military School:

[Begin recording] [Military orders heard in background] [Announcer] Radio Venceremos, official voice of the FMLN, is at the (Rafael Antonio Arce Sabla) Military School, 1st section, Francisco Sanchez eastern front.

This morning, 14 November 1981, at this military school on the Francisco Sanchez eastern front, there is a gathering of the forces from this northern section of the front. There is a very large gathering of fighters. Various platoons of the various sections of the FMLN revolutionary forces have gathered here. The commanders and the political-military committee of the northern zone of the Francisco Sanchez eastern front are also here.

A political and military event is going to take place at this guerrilla school -- the (Rafael Antonio Arce Salba), Commander (Emilio), School.

We are now with Companero Jose Leoncio Pichinte, political head of the northern zone of the Francisco Sanchez eastern front; and Commander Jorge Melendez, Jonas. We would like Companero Jonas to tell us about the meaning, the significance, of this event we have witnessed.

[Jonas] The main significance of this event is that we have entered a higher stage for solving problems and for providing the moral strength that revolutionaries must have. We have the opportunity to meet with the organized people, the militias, the production brigades, the army and the masses here on the front to find an ideological and moral solution to problems as an expression of an entire nation, where faults are commonly accepted, for the common benefit of all, as a form of contributions from every companero, from every revolutionary.

To summarize: This is a new way to have popular participation in the solution of problems, to have ideological and moral strengthening of revolutionary principles, the behavior of every man who has social responsibilities toward the process, the group, the entire nation, and -- especially here -- toward all the people in the northern war front of the Francisco Sanchez eastern front.

[Announcer] Commander Jorge Melendez, at this event a large number of fighters and militia-men and persons responsible for various branches of this front have gathered to pay recognition to accomplishments; but there has been another kind of event also, an event that we have considered as very tough [fuerte]: the acknowledgement of serious faults by companeros who have committed them. Can you tell us about this self-criticism taking place in front of a large number of military forces of the northeastern front.

[Jonas] The objective is this: Many companeros have committed serious faults. It is tough, it is difficult to speak frankly and clearly about serious faults in front of an assembly, but we do it because what should move a revolutionary to overcome a fault is moral pressure and not punishment, military coercion or any kind of repression. A commitment should not be made out of fear of a repressive law but should be the result of principles shared by the fighters who have committed faults and the rest of the companeros. [end recording]

Now we will present excerpts of the political-military event that has taken place at the (Rafael Antonio Arce Sabla) Military School:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] The political and military leadership of the northern zone of the eastern front has made a decision. We must grow increasingly stronger. We must become increasingly better revolutionaries and for this reason we must begin recognizing the qualities that a revolutionary must have, the most beautiful qualities, the things that as human beings and as revolutionaries we must strengthen in this process and in our daily life.

Therefore, the political and military leadership has made the following decision: Every month we will select those companeros on the front who we find exemplary; those who have complied fully with their duty, who have done it humbly, in a simple manner, patriotically and unselfishly; those who have not left their work half-done but have carried it out regardless of difficulties; those who have made every effort. These companeros are not the types who go around bragging about what they do. These companeros can distinguish themselves in battle, in the kitchen, in daily cleaning tasks, in any task, in any task that the revolutionary process requires in our front. [applause] [end recording]

At this moment, Companero Jose Leoncio Pichinte spoke to give the names of the companeros who most distinguished themselves this month fulfilling their duties on the Francisco Sanchez eastern front. He mentioned the following companeros: Commander (Alvaro), director of the (Rafael Antonio Arce Sabla) Military School; Commander (Mario), director of instructors of the (Rafael Antonio Arce Sabla) Military School; Companero (Gustavo), instructor at the (Rafael Antonio Arce Sabla) Military School; Companero (Emiliano), director of the School for Minors; Companero (Carmelo), instructor at the School for Minors; Companero (Roque), administrative head for the zone; Companero (Alberto), responsible for health; Commander (Ismael), militarily responsible for the Radio Venceremos camp; Companero (Puno), member of the security forces of Radio Venceremos; Companero (Apolonio), chief technician [responsable tecnico] of Radio Venceremos; Companero (Santiago) and Companero (Maravia), from Radio Venceremos' production team.

Afterwards, Commander Jorge Melendez, member of the FMLN General Staff, spoke:

[Begin recording] We have other companeros who are not exactly from this front but we want to officially acknowledge them because they have been an example not only for our front but for the entire country as well. I am referring to the companero political prisoners.

They also have shown fulfillment of their duty [words indistinct] when the enemy thought it had neutralized these companeros by capturing them and disarming them. It happens now, however, that instead of having unarmed persons, persons who cannot fight, the enemy now has another front to face: the front being called the fifth front, that is, the front of struggle of the companero political prisoners.

On this occasion, since we are mentioning exemplary revolutionaries, we also want to recognize our companero political prisoners because of their exemplary way of fulfilling their duty. Through Radio Venceremos, as we have done with other companeros, we want to express our recognition for these companeros to serve as moral encouragement, as support for them to maintain their attitude of struggle. [applause and shouting]

To conclude this event, we cannot fail to mention a very important event for us, for the FMLN. One of our commanders has been captured. He is Companero Claudio (Rabindranath) Armijo. Speaking on behalf of the northeastern front and of all the companeros in this assembly, we want to demand -- to ask, rather -- that the Government of Honduras maintain a neutral attitude toward the conflict of the Salvadoran people. Armijo is an FMLN leader. Our front has been recognized by many countries and it has been received at the United Nations. This is proof that the FMLN is the legitimate representative of the Salvadoran people. This was expressed in the French-Mexican declaration that has been supported by various countries.

Therefore, since Armijo is a member of the northeastern front and since he is a legitimate leader and representative of the Salvadoran people, we ask the Government of Honduras to maintain a neutral attitude and to show respect to the Salvadoran people by releasing one of their leaders who was not in Honduran territory to make any attack on the laws or the security of the state or Republic of Honduras...[interrupted by shouts: "Freedom for Commander Armijo; freedom for the political prisoners; freedom!"] [end recording]

FMLN REPORTS SIEGE BY HONDURAN, SALVADORAN TROOPS

PA171752 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 17 Nov 81

[FMLN report on actions in Chalatenango, northern Cabanas Department]

[Excerpt] Fouga Magister planes are being used in air attacks. They have dropped 500-pound and 200-pound bombs. In addition, artillery helicopters have been using their machineguns against the people of the region. [Words indistinct] the army is trying to establish a siege, to annihilate not only the guerrilla forces but the civilian population, which sympathizes with the insurgents. For this purpose, Honduran Army troops are laying siege along the border, in a maneuver coordinated with the Salvadoran Army.

In this new cleanup operation, the military-Christian Democratic junta is using all of its military resources: helicopters, planes, artillery, grenade launchers, special troops, regular troops and direct U.S. advice.

In the siege of Pena Blanca, in northern Cabanas, the enemy has maintained artillery fire for more than 72 hours. They have made approximately 200 attacks with 120-mm and 81-mm mortars and have destroyed the peasants' crops.

This is the second cleanup operation the government's army has carried out in this region in the past 6 months. During the first, the enemy tried to trap the insurgents along the banks of the Lempa River, the border with Honduras, to totally annihilate them. However, the enemy failed to achieve its objectives on that occasion, as the guerrillas were able to break the siege and to take more than 1,000 civilians from the combat zone. Now the people of this area are suffering from the destruction caused by criminal and indiscriminate bombing.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS -- South Korea's new ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to El Salvador, Chong Hae-yung, presented his credentials to the revolutionary government junta on 9 November 1981. [San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 10 Nov 81 pp 2, 39 PA] -- San Salvador, 12 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Muhammad 'Ali Kamal, new Egyptian ambassador to El Salvador, presented his credentials to President Jose Napoleon Duarte today. The ceremony was attended by Vice President Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez, Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich, Ramon Avalos Navarrete, Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena and Presidential Chief of Staff Col Daniel Bustamante. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0209 GMT 13 Nov 81 PA] -- San Salvador, 12 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Leopoldo Castillo, new Venezuelan ambassador to El Salvador, presented his credentials to the government junta today. During the ceremony the new ambassador reiterated his country's unconditional support for the Salvadoran democratization process. Ambassador Castillo replaces Abel Clavijos Osto. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0032 GMT 13 Nov 81 PA]

HIGH-TENSION TOWERS -- Gustavo Antonio Reyes, president of the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission, today told ACAN-EFE that the guerrillas have damaged 160 high-tension towers in 1 year and that the government has spent \$2.8 million in repairs plus \$5.2 million in fuel for the emergency electric plants. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2025 GMT 10 Nov 81 PA]

NEW MINISTERS SWORN -- In his office at the Presidential Palace, Jose Napoleon Duarte, president of the revolutionary junta of the government, swore in Oscar Raymundo Melgar Castro, new minister of the economy; and Guillermo Diaz Salazar, who was confirmed in the post of minister of foreign trade. President Duarte asked the officers to work harder at their respective functions to surpass the economic goals set by the revolutionary government. [Text] [San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 5 Nov 81 p 3 PA]

GUATEMALAREPORTAGE ON VARIOUS GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES

Attacks in Quiche Department

PA171855 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] Heavy damage, which has not yet been evaluated, was caused by armed members of a clandestine organization in Joyabaj, Quiche Department, during an incursion.

Preliminary reports state that the power plant and most of the water supply system were destroyed and the main watertanks poisoned.

It was also reported that, after causing considerable damage in Joyabaj, the subversives went to the (Guaparral) ranch, owned by the (Herrera Imargen) family, where they again wreaked havoc. Losses have not yet been determined.

The authorities reported that after learning of the subversives' attack on the towns of Joyabaj and [name indistinct], security forces were mobilized throughout the area. The authorities, however, have not succeeded in locating the subversives, who fled in the direction of the nearby foothills.

16 Troops Reported Killed

PA172001 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] Guerrillas of the Guatemalan Armed People's Revolutionary Organization [ORPA] have occupied and destroyed the (Helvetia) farm, which was used to train the mercenaries who participated in the imperialist attack against Cuba at Playa Giron in April 1961. ORPA commandos also executed two people who took part in the slaying of U.S. priest (Stanley Rosser).

In addition, the guerrilla organization inflicted 25 casualties on government troops, including 16 deaths, in two attacks on army forces.

Communique Issued in Nicaragua

PA180002 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] All the people to arms. This is the basic theme of a Guatemalan revolutionary communique published as a paid advertisement in the newspaper EL NUEVO DIARIO. The communique says that the Guatemalan people, who are giving and also receiving blows, have won many victories which puts them closer than ever to a final victory.

The communique also says that now is the time to promote the people's war and the country's self-defense, in which the people will make up a strong battleline against the Guatemalan Government.

The communique explains some of the reasons why the people's organizations are waging these struggles: the present state of injustice, death, malnutrition and hunger. All this has forced the indomitable Guatemalan man to organize a powerful guerrilla movement which is making progress toward destroying this situation.

In addition, the communique says that next year's elections will be just another farce to deceive the people, as has happened many times in the past. Finally, it says that the power of the people's struggle will wipe out the process which pretends to keep the exploiters in power.

7 Killed in Tecpan

PA180339 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1933 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] Guatemala City, 17 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Leftist guerrillas today attacked the Guatemalan town of Tecpan in the western province of Chimaltenango. They detonated a powerful bomb that destroyed government offices.

According to a police report, Catalino Galindo Marroquin, mayor of the town; a municipal policeman; and five other people were killed during the attack.

A group of guerrillas reportedly stormed the town of Tecpan and occupied it for 3 hours after attacking the city hall and the police station. The guerrillas, before leaving the town, detonated a powerful bomb that destroyed the city hall and adjacent government offices. The strong explosion was heard all over the town. Military units sent there set up a surveillance net around the town.

HONDURASU.S. CITIZENS REPORTED TAKEN IN SALVADORAN CLASH

PA171846 Paris AFP in Spanish 1749 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] San Jose, 17 Nov (AFP) -- Two Honduran soldiers were killed and two were wounded in a clash with Salvadoran troops who penetrated the neighboring territory last Sunday in the border area of La Guarita, according to reports reaching the regional office of the UN high commissioner here.

During the incident they captured Nicaraguan actress Bianca Jagger; Bob Boyer, assistant to U.S. Congressman Ronald Delano [name as received]; John Gultenes, member of the National Council of Churches; and two U.S. newsmen. This was announced by another quarter [words indistinct] in Tegucigalpa.

However, the Salvadoran Army, asked about this by AFP this morning, flatly denied the report about a clash between Salvadoran and Honduran troops.

TAC ASKS PAZ TO INTERVENE ON FMLN REBEL'S BEHALF

PA172223 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] The Central American Anti-Imperialist Tribunal, TAC, has sent a letter to Honduran President Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia requesting that he intercede to insure the physical safety of Commander Claudio (Rabridanath) Armijo, a member of the FMLN general leadership.

Commander Armijo was in Honduras for medical treatment when he was captured on 2 November by agents of the Department of National Investigation, DIN, in the telecommunications office in Tegucigalpa.

The TAC letter, signed by Freddy Balzan, the organization's executive secretary, states that Armijo was taken into custody in the presence of witnesses; thus the DIN's denial of his arrest raises suspicion.

NICARAGUAFOREIGN MINISTRY ON EMBASSY FIRE IN WASHINGTON

PA180224 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] In relation to a fire that burned part of the Nicaraguan Embassy in Washington, the Foreign Ministry issued the following news communique:

The Foreign Ministry of Nicaragua wishes to report that the Nicaraguan Embassy in Washington was set on fire shortly after midnight today. (Officer Murray) of the District of Columbia police told members of our diplomatic mission that the fire was intentionally set, but he gave no further details.

It was learned unofficially that the firemen of the U.S. capital had received telephone calls concerning intentions to set fire to the residence of the Nicaraguan Embassy in Washington, on Jericho Street. The property, valued at \$2 million, was totally consumed by the fire.

All this took place in spite of the promise of permanent vigilance by Washington security officers following the illegal occupation of the building by a group of persons approximately 4 months ago.

We cannot avoid linking the irresponsibility and inflammatory rhetoric of recent weeks -- in which not only Alexander Haig Jr. has been engaged, but also George Bush and Gen Wallace Nutting, chief of the U.S. southern command for Central and South America stationed at Panama -- with this criminal action and vandalism.

The Foreign Ministry also wishes to report that, fortunately, there were no casualties or personal losses to any member of the mission.

The Foreign Ministry will continue to report any new information on the progress of the investigations.

[Signed] Foreign Ministry

ENVOY TO HONDURAS RECALLED FOR CONSULTATIONS

PA170430 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] The Nicaraguan ambassador to Honduras, Guillermo Suarez Rivas, arrived in Managua today for consultations. He had been recalled by the Nicaraguan Government.

On his arrival in Managua, Suarez told newsmen that in spite of Thursday's incident along the border line between the two countries, relations between Honduras and Nicaragua are normal. The ambassador said that Nicaragua and Honduras are called upon to be the pillars for peace in Central America.

CORDOVA RIVAS ON HONDURAN DISPUTE, PPSC MEETING

PA172340 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] Rafael Cordova Rivas, member of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, is of the opinion that the accusations made by the Honduran foreign minister at the OAS, of an alleged Nicaraguan attack on Honduran soldiers, are entirely without foundation.

Cordova Rivas made a brief statement to newsmen this morning at the airport when he was bidding farewell to Sergio Ramirez Mercado, who left for Costa Rica to participate in conversations over the political situation of the region. Cordova Rivas referred to the letter of the People's Social Christian Party [PPSC], which he said was insulting. He also was doubtful of the results of the meeting for reflection. Here is what he said:

[Begin recording] I do not think the accusations have been officially made at the OAS. Nevertheless, we can prove that the Honduran troops attacked our border post. Besides, the Honduran official communique does not say when and what really happened. Well, let us wait and see what is in the accusation.

[Question] Does the Nicaraguan Government have any intention of denouncing the Honduran attacks?

[Answer] Frankly, we have not made a final decision because we do not think this case will amount to much. It could be an orchestrated provocation.

[Question] What is your opinion regarding the meeting for reflection called by the PPSC? Do you think it can succeed?

[Answer] The proposal was stillborn. As you recall, the previous forum was a failure and I believe this new dialogue will be a meeting of parrots.

[Question] What about the PPSC letter?

[Answer] The letter is insulting and cannot be taken into consideration. It just does not deserve any attention.

[Question] Is there antagonism between your views and those of the PPSC?

[Answer] No, there is no antagonism. We just do not agree with the dialogue because we believe it is useless. [end recording]

COSEP LEADER ON ILO VISIT, OTHER MISSIONS

PA170327 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Nov 81

[Orion Elpidio Pastora report]

[Excerpt] We are going to present an interview with (Alejandro Bolanos Davis) regarding the international solidarity that the Higher Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP] has received as a result of the (?210)-day prison sentences imposed on three leaders of the COSEP and the legal process begun against others whom the police authorities describe as being absent. The COSEP has also announced that delegations of the ILO and the Higher Council of Private Enterprise of Central America and Mexico [Consejo Superior de la Empresa Privada Centroamericana y Mejicana] will also come to Nicaragua to try to obtain the release of the COSEP leaders.

Here are the comments by (Bolano Davis), acting president of COSEP:

[Begin recording] Cables have been received by the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and by COSEP in solidarity with our imprisoned leaders and the charges made against those who are absent. We have received messages from all over the world, from the private sectors of such countries as France, the United Kingdom, Germany, Spain, Switzerland, Finland and all of Europe; as well as Venezuela, Mexico, the United States, all of Central America and other Latin American countries. We have also received messages from governments which have called for the immediate release of the prisoners.

A delegation of the Mexican private sector will be coming to Nicaragua soon. It is made up of the Employers Confederation of the Mexican Republic, COPARMEX; and the Coordinating Business Council, CCE. The delegation will be coming to learn first hand about the situation in the Nicaraguan private sector. It will make an appeal to the Nicaraguan Government to release some of our leaders who are still in prison and whose offer to pay the bail set by the court has not been accepted. There are delays in the judicial branch which prevent the reintegration into society of honest and upright individuals who have not committed any crime. We suspect that there are other reasons for their arrest.

We must stress that the Mexican private sector has expressed interest in investing in Nicaragua. Mexico has been very honorable regarding the Sandinist revolution since Mexicans are faithful believers in democracy, the respect for human rights and freedom. In Mexico a person is not jailed for writing a letter to the government regardless of how strong the letter is. Mexico has been generous with Nicaragua because it supported a revolution of national liberation which would permit freedom to dissent.

A delegation of Venezuelan congressmen is also coming at the invitation of FEDEPRICA [Federation of Private Enterprise of Central America] to work for the immediate release of our president. Venezuela also supported the revolution of national liberation against the previous regime so that the Nicaraguans could have free elections, unlimited freedom of the press and freedom to express one's opinion without fear of being punished, particularly if the things that one says are true.

A high-level delegation of the ILO will also be visiting Nicaragua, probably on 23 November, to meet with the government junta and request the immediate release of the COSEP leaders. [end recording]

BORGE, D'ESCOTO MEET UK DEPUTY MINISTER URE

PA171434 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] A high-level British delegation has met with Father Miguel d'Escoto. The threats against Nicaragua and the destabilizing maneuvers carried out by certain sectors of the Reagan administration were among the subjects discussed by John B. Ure, British deputy minister for Latin American affairs; and Miguel d'Escoto Brockman, Nicaraguan foreign minister.

The meeting took place at the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry. Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga also participated in the talks, Foreign Ministry sources revealed; as did Interior Minister Tomas Borge, Education Minister Carlos Tunnerman and (Silvia McEvan) of the FSLN's international relations department.

Possible future aid from the British Government was also discussed by those present.

Ure Goes to El Salvador, U.S.

PA180209 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] Managua -- British Deputy Minister for Latin American Affairs John E. Ure concluded his official visit to Managua pointing to the possibility that his government may open an embassy in Nicaragua to strengthen the relations between the two nations.

Ure left for El Salvador after meeting with the deputy defense minister and members of the FSLN national leadership to review the Central American situation. Ure also met with Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto and Education Minister Carlos Tunnerman.

After his visit to El Salvador, John E. Ure will travel to the United States to meet with the assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, Thomas Enders. In El Salvador, Ure will meet with the members of the Christian Democratic junta.

BRIEFS

BATTALION TO MOUNTAINS -- Somotillo -- On 3 November Reserve Battalion 37-52 of the Malpaisillo municipality left for the mountains, somewhere in Nicaragua. The battalion is composed of workers, peasants, students and members of the 19 July Sandinist Youth. [Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 10 Nov 81 p 5 PA]

FIDEL CASTRO GIVES RED SUNDAY PRESS CONFERENCE

FL162037 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1845 GMT 16 Nov 81

[Text of Fidel Castro's press conference given in Havana on 15 November after a visit to work brigades throughout Havana City and Havana Province on the occasion of Red Sunday -- recorded]

[Text] [Words indistinct] we had to make a long detour because we could not go the normal way. [Words indistinct].

The majority of the sugar mills will start up in December. Let's see if we have as good harvest as last year. All measures have been taken and a great effort has been made. I am not going to say how many tons we are going to produce because I do not know.

[Question indistinct]

[Castro] Yes, it is true that spirit has contributed toward the mobilization. But these mobilizations are now becoming traditional, they are becoming historical [words indistinct] it is very difficult to appreciate, but, yes, there is a very combative spirit.

[Question indistinct]

[Castro] We must be prepared for the two battles. We must be prepared to face aggression and we must be prepared to face the task of production. We must be prepared for war and peace. And I believe that in this respect we have made an enormous effort in the two fields. What newspaper are you from?

[Reporter] I am from television.

[Castro] Ah, from television.

[Reporter] We wish to ask you for details....

[Castro] But you journalists are not to blame, it is us, because I never remember about journalists. I have great esteem for them, but I never remember about them. As I left early I did not invite the journalists. It can be a slight error for one on a day such as this and truly I do not like to make an exhibition of myself. This is why I hardly ever let the press know. It is becoming traditional for journalists to participate but I see the point and I promise you that the next time I will advise you in plenty of time.

I suffer seeing the "cameramen" [in English] with those heavy machines. It is a Red Sunday, a hard day. And from what newspaper do you come?

[Reporter] GRANMA. [Exchange between Castro and reporters indistinct -- NBC appears to be present]

[Castro] Did you visit the 19 April plantation? They are well advanced there. There has been no bad weather and that is exceptional. They will have an early vegetable crop this year. They had to sow twice last year due to the bad weather and at a determined moment at the end of November and the beginning of December there was a large accumulation of potatoes and vegetables. An early sowing would be ideal in order to extend as much as possible the period in which the vegetables are distributed. Most of the harvests came together last year.

I was worried about the hurricane that swept over half of the island. It then went upward and swung northeast, passing through Camaguey. Well, it did some harm in that region.

Undoubtedly, when these hurricanes come westward they cause much more harm because, in the first place, they affect tobacco, vegetables and plantains; they cause tremendous harm. These hurricanes that appear in November with heavy rains cause a large amount of damage to crops.

Camaguey does not have the type of crops, tobacco and vegetables, that Havana has, for example, such large ones. They are still flooded and certain damage is being done to the sugar cane in the Candido Gonzalez, Haiti and [names indistinct] sugar mills. But even so, the people have the will to work. They are determined to carry out the sugar production plan in each of those sugar mills. I tell you that the workers are working 24 hours a day so that the beginning of the harvest is not delayed. They have also protected the machinery and other equipment and the damage has been minimal, although the water has penetrated some of the mills.

In some villages the people were traveling by boat. They are making a great effort, because they do not intend to reduce the sugar production plan in those sugar mills that have been affected by the hurricane and the floods.

This hurricane could have caused much more damage, such as we had in 1979, when the airport was cut off at the time of the conference of the nonaligned countries. We also had a severe hurricane last year that caused tremendous damage. See here. Even the tobacco seedbeds were ruined. They had to be resown, and yet in Pinar del Rio they had a (?bad) harvest.

It is to be hoped that in a year such as this one the harvests will be better than last year's harvests. And then we have the fact that the Havana plantain crops are ruined every time a hurricane passes this way.

At least this year, so far, we have not had any strong storms nor hurricanes here in the western region. There were no abundant rains this year. We can say that the rains were scarce, much more scarce than last year, for the sugar cane. But the effort in the cultivation and the looking after of the sugar cane was greater than ever and this compensated for the negative effects. For example: It did not rain in May, which is the rule, there is very little rain in May; it rained in June; it was dry in July; there were bigger rains in August and September; and in October it was fairly dry. In general the rains have been below the overall average and despite this fact the sugar cane is in good condition. I do not think that the production plan will be affected. They are carrying out intensive work at 19 April in order to prepare the subsoilers. These subsoilers are being made here in Cubana de Acero and also in the new factory that manufactures agricultural equipment, where they are also manufacturing the blades for the hay machines.

For next spring's sowing most of the harrowing will be done with 180 hp [name indistinct] tractors. A large number of (?BT 75's) will be left free to be used with this [name indistinct] subsoiler. We have also purchased, and they are now arriving, 1,000 4-wheel Romanian tractors. These tractors are going to work with the (Mallarin) equipment, which is a light (Massey) subsoiler. Thus, at the beginning of the harvest we will have approximately 2,000 tractors doing cultivation work. This has never been done before in sugar cane cultivation. It is my belief that the sugar cane sector will continue to expand. The sugar sector, despite all the difficulties that may crop up, has practically all the guarantees for its continuous development. The work is being carried out well and the sugar cane program has all the necessary guarantees.

The problem of rust is being overcome. There is no more rust. New species have been planted. It has been necessary to plant, replace more than 33,000 caballerias of the 43,000 that were (?affected). And this has been done in 2 years. No country in the world, no sugarcane-producing country, can liquidate rust in the time that took us to liquidate it: in 2 years. This is why we had to make a very large spring planting, more than 33,000 caballerias.

The goal will not be achieved in the colder (?regions). It will be somewhat below the goal, because most of the land was used for spring planting. Therefore when the rains begin there are some regions in the country, such as in southern Camaguey, Matanzas and in most of the provinces, where there are areas in which the soil cannot be prepared in spring, it must be prepared in the dry season.

This is why the goal will not be achieved in the colder regions, but this will not affect the amount of sugar cane needed for the next year.

With all the cultivation that the sugar cane will go through and taking into account that the year will possibly be a normal one, not like this year, which was under the historical averages, in 1983 we will have all the sugar cane that has been planned for. Well, I would like to tell you that we will have slightly more sugar cane in 1983 than the plan calls for, based on the way matters now stand and in view of the work being carried out in the sugar cane sector.

Our situation now contrasts with last year's when the price was three times higher than now.

[Reporter's question indistinct]

[Castro] What?

[Reporter] (?Did it go down)?

[Castro] It's low, yes. This year the price is 1/3 of last year's. We had the additional incentive last year of good sugar prices. This year, it is a must. We cannot produce less tonnage than planned. There is also a large-scale program to save fuel in the sugarcane sector and work is being done in all branches of the economy to cut down on the consumption of fuel because the revolution can still do a lot more. Despite all the difficulties, we are going to keep moving forward. Despite the world economic crisis, the sugar prices, there will be many countries unable to overcome those difficulties. No one knows what is going to happen. As of now, the Yankees are not overcoming theirs. On the contrary, the news coming in daily is that there is [word indistinct] of the economy. They are in a stage of recession and it seems like prospects are not good.

[Reporter] Commander, the solidarity with Cuba that has emerged in recent days in the wake of the threats of aggression against our country has undoubtedly reached very high levels.

[Castro] I did not want to speak too much about politics now. Rather, I wanted to speak about agriculture, Red Sunday, but, since you ask, I believe that it is very important that we discovered what they were planning. And we have denounced and unmasked these plans and, in addition, we have put them in an embarrassing position. I spoke on the 24th [October, at the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution Congress] about that article that the U.S. press had published referring to the alleged sending of 500 to 600 special troops to Nicaragua. That was a big lie, a huge lie, from head to toe, total, absolute -- there was not a single one. They had evidently been fabricating this type of lie to orchestrate their plan, to seek justification in the eyes of U.S. and world opinion for their aggressive actions in Central America and against Cuba. I denounced this on the 24th. I said that this was undoubtedly a stratagem which in this case they had not dared to officially comment on and so used newsmen to do it. However, barely 72 hours later, we learned that although it was not an official government declaration -- it was supposed to be a journalistic report -- the secretary of state had begun to communicate with certain governments to inform them -- and these were important governments, important countries -- that Cuba had sent 500 to 600 special troops and that they would have to take measures and so forth. I did not know this yet on the 24th. You can say that I guessed their plan. But barely 72 hours later, we received confirmation that they -- Mr Haig -- had communicated with certain important governments informing them of what the journalists had said. In other words, the journalists did not invent anything. It was the State Department which gave this information to the journalists.

And the State Department had been working on this for some time. So we challenged them. Because in his communication with those governments, Haig said they had proof. So we told them: Produce the proof. We have not said which governments it was because it is up to them to say whether it is true or not they informed certain governments. But they have not dared deny it. Some spokesmen have said they have no information about notification to certain governments. But we do know it. We have clearly said so. We are waiting for them to say whether it is true or not that they notified certain governments.

Of course, they cannot deny it. They cannot deny it. Nor can they prove -- because it is an absolute lie -- that we have sent 500 to 600 special troops. They claim it was during the second half of September. What we sent during the second half of September were teachers. The teachers traveled there from 16 September to 16 October. There were 2,000 teachers: 1,019 women and 981 men. We have the tickets, the names of all the teachers, their hometowns and their destination in Nicaragua and we have all this data at hand, ready to see whether they say anything. Our challenge has put them in an embarrassing position. Show the proof. Say whether it is true or not that what the two journalists wrote was reported to other important governments. Well, they cannot answer, they have not said a word.

We had also foiled other lies of theirs: The lie that we had sent advisers to El Salvador, the lie that the arms we received here for the defense of the country, the territorial militias, we were redistributing in Central America. Those were other lies. We have challenged these lies earlier. We challenged them at the time of the IPU conference. At the time they were concocting the brew. And we discovered it, we denounced it and we demoralized them. They have had to shut up and they have ended up looking like liars and irresponsible people because they have given that information to certain governments and now those governments are saying, hey, you fooled me. But they not only gave the information; they also said they had proof. We have asked them two things: Where is the proof, show us the proof; secondly, is it true or not that they informed certain governments, including threats along with the information. And we have caught them off guard. They are completely in the air. Many people in the United States have realized that all of this is a lie. So, in a certain way, we have ruined their maneuver. They are going to keep on making things up, making lies up. They had all that planned, prepared already. Now they are up in the air, aside from the fact that they are meeting not only with solidarity for Cuba in connection with this specific problem, but also a growing resistance to U.S. foreign policy in Europe and everywhere. People understand that this adventuristic policy can lead to a war.

One has to note the demonstrations, the universal opposition that this U.S. policy is arousing in Europe. To this one must add the fact that this administration's economic policy is a catastrophe. All the promises they made about a balanced budget, they have now been forced to give up. There are some who predict the U.S. budget deficit in 1982 will amount to 100 billion dollars. Inflation continues to grow. Recession continues to move on. Contradictions within the administration itself have become public. The principal creator of this economic policy -- the director of management and budget, Stockman -- has stated that this is a mistake, that it would not solve any problems.

That is what we said at the congress, during the report to the second congress [of Cuba's Communist Party]. I said that they would not solve any problems, but that they were dangerous. Later on, we said it and the facts are proving us right. The policy of huge arms expenditures... [leaves thought unfinished] They have reduced taxes of the rich following the theory that it would increase investments and invigorate the economy.

They are caught between recession and inflation. They thought it apparently was an easy problem to solve, and now they have inflation, recession and an arms race. That way they cannot solve the problem of the economy. They are heading down.

There are contradictions within the United States. There is international opposition. This administration's economic policy is discredited, not only in the United States but throughout the world. The U.S. foreign policy is confronting a growing resistance by all peoples in the world. (?Things are not coming out as planned).

We must continue to work as we are working now in every area, strengthening defense, facing up to the economic problems, improving efficiency and making the best effort. We must be in the same condition we were in when we finished the war in order to face up to the problems of peace. There must be nothing left to the imagination or trust.

What I can really say now is that we have broken their backs. That is what I can say. We have put them in an embarrassing position. They have not yet responded to our challenge. We must remain alert to see what new stratagem they attempt, what new lies they can come up with. But in reality, there has been a great international solidarity.

All the progressive peoples, the democratic peoples, everybody without exception, everywhere have expressed their decision to support us. They have reiterated their threats during Haig's appearance before the Senate. He repeated the threats against Central America, against Cuba. When the representatives asked him to say if there were or were not any plans, if they could give assurances that they would not implement a policy of destabilization, he said no. He said he could not give such assurances.

There are some who believe that they are trying to frighten Nicaragua and Cuba. It would be the world's greatest foolishness. After 21 years, I mean 23 years, against Cuba, they have not frightened anyone here. So they are wasting their time if they believe they can frighten anyone. Well, other things are said. Many things are said. But, in response to questions posed [word indistinct] legislators at the house, I believe it was the house's Foreign Relations Committee [as heard], he had to take off his mask.

[Question] Commander, recently the statements by an official of the Department of State were made public and they are in conflict with the previous ones.

[Answer] I read them. The contents were a bunch of foolishness, nothing else. But, they also have military delegations touring Latin America. All this situation coincides with the meeting of chiefs of Latin American armies in Washington. Evidently, they have been trying to seek the complicity of some governments in Latin America. They have been toying with the idea of using troops of Latin American armies, troops of the Chilean Army, the Argentine Army and others in Central America. They have been trying to get the troops of South American armies and introduce them into Central America. That is one of their ideas. I believe that they have met some degree of resistance, except for some countries that feel honored because the United States wants to use them as mercenary troops in Central America. But they cannot solve any problems that way. What they are going to do is set the prairie on fire. If they conduct such plans, they are going to set fire, let us say, to peace. They are going to create an insoluble problem if they get their mind set on trying to get South American troops to intervene in Central America. They are going to create a very serious problem.

I do not believe that anything like that will solve problems in Latin America, in Central America. Doubtlessly, the only acceptable thing to do would be to support the position adopted many countries, which is to seek a negotiated political solution in the problems of El Salvador and Central America. That is the position being defended by Mexico and France. That is the only wise, sensible way out in this situation, not intervention or war. That way they are not going to solve anything. They are going to make things worse. The only sensible position they can adopt is to support that position, that is to seek a negotiated solution, a political solution negotiated by all sides. That is the only way. The other way they are going to set the continent on fire.

It is possible that there could be some other way. But so far, they have refused to support a political solution and would like to see a military solution, to crush the last revolutionary and destroy him. That is impossible. That will never happen and could not happen. Well, on this Red Sunday we also had to talk a little bit about politics. I was thinking about production and agriculture.

CASTRO URGES WORKERS TO INCREASE PRODUCTION

PA162117 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Nov 81

[Text] In a message addressed to the Cuban sugar workers, Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Council of State, urged the workers to increase productive efficiency now that a frenetic, irresponsible and provocative campaign of lies and threats is being waged by imperialism against Cuba. Let us demonstrate, the message adds, that in addition to being very combative, we can be very productive.

The message was read at the ceremony held to launch the present sugar campaign held at the America Libre sugar mill in the eastern town of Contramaestre.

CUBAN-MOZAMBICAN JOINT COMMISSION MEETS

FL171650 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] A meeting of experts has begun in this capital prior to the third session of the Joint Cuban-Mozambican Commission, which will continue until Monday when it will close with the signing of joint work documents.

During the meeting, held in the Sierra Maestra Hotel, the two parties expressed their satisfaction at being able to strengthen even more the ties of friendship and fraternity that unite the two countries.

GRENADIANS END VISIT TO CUBAN HEALTH CENTERS

FL171815 Bridgetown CANA in English 1745 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 17 Nov (CANA) -- A seven-member team of health officials from Grenada has just ended a tour of Cuba's health facilities. The team, headed by the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Health, Dorcas Braveboy, included nurses, public health inspectors and a pharmacist. It visited a number of hospitals, polyclinics and health centers.

The visit was the first to Cuba by an official delegation from the Grenada Ministry of Health since the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1979. Cuba has been assisting Grenada in a number of areas such as fisheries, communications and the construction of the island's first international airport.

MONTANE MEETS WITH BCP SECRETARY STANISHEV

FL170033 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 16 Nov 81

[Text] Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the Politburo and member of the secretariat, has received Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] Central Committee, at Cuba's Communist Party [PCC] Central Committee headquarters. Stanishev leads his country's delegation to the Bulgarian culture week to be celebrated this week in Cuba as part of the commemorative activities honoring the 1,300th anniversary of the Bulgarian state. They met in a friendly and fraternal climate and reviewed the state of bilateral relations between the two parties, noting their high level. They also exchanged views on international issues and again confirmed the agreement in points of view between the BCP and the PCC.

BRIEFS

USSR EMBASSY CONSTRUCTION -- Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of the Politburo and first secretary of Havana City Province, visited construction sites of the Soviet Union Embassy. The complex consists of five buildings, the protocol hall tower and the living quarters for the diplomats. The embassy will have 30,000 meters of installations and completion is scheduled for July 1983. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 16 Nov 81 FL]

SWEDISH BANKER VISITS -- (Uno Ten Pal), senior vice president of the Swedish Savings Bank Association has arrived in Havana to visit bank facilities that specialize in public services and places of interest in the country. His stay in Cuba opens another phase in relations between the Swedish institution and the new Cuban banking organization [as heard] which is quickly taking shape all over nation. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 16 Nov 81 FL]

BARBADOSVISITING CUBAN MINISTER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

FL180120 Bridgetown CANA in English 0002 GMT 18 Nov 81

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Excerpt] Bridgetown, Barbados, 17 Nov (CANA) -- Cuba said today that if the United States wanted to improve relations with Havana, it must remove the economic embargo imposed in 1962 against the communist Caribbean island and stop all acts of hostility towards it. "...These conditions are not concessions that we are asking the United States to give back to us. They are not favors. We are asking for them," Cuba's deputy foreign minister, Ricardo Alarcon, said here.

Senor Alarcon was speaking at a press conference hours after holding discussion with Barbados' foreign minister, Louis Tull, on the international political situation and other matters of mutual interest.

The Cuban minister accused Washington of violating Cuba's sovereignty by sending military planes over the island and also threatening to stage an invasion.

He said the Cuban terms for normalizing relations with Washington were "simply the necessary conditions to put the two countries on an equal footing and to grant the possibility for both to discuss on an equal level... a universally acceptable principle of international law."

Senor Alarcon is currently on a tour of the region which has already taken him to Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Grenada. Tomorrow he moves on to St Lucia before returning home on Friday.

PPM CONDEMNS U.S. THREATS AGAINST CUBA

FL171535 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1415 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] The Barbados People's Progressive Movement [PPM] has condemned the threats and aggression by the United States against Cuba. In a declaration released today, the PPM demands that Washington stop intervening in the internal affairs of Cuba. The PPM affirms that U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig has lied with arrogance and without the least bit of integrity when he stated that the Cuban Government had landed and established 500 soldiers in Nicaragua in October in order to launch an invasion from there into El Salvador. The PPM added that peace-loving peoples unite in demanding that U.S. Secretary of State Haig produce proof against Cuba and proof of all that he has said. The declaration congratulates the people and Government of Cuba for its firm stand against the serious provocations and threats made by the government.

GRENADAWHITEMAN IN U.S., RENEWS CALL FOR PRG-U.S. TALKS

FL180103 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] Grenada's foreign minister, Unison Whiteman, has called for a meeting of the highest level between the People's Revolutionary Government [PRG] and the Reagan administration to discuss the normalization of relations between the two countries. Brother Whiteman made this call today as he continued a goodwill tour of North America. During his tour Brother Whiteman has had separate meetings with concerned progressive forces in the United States and on Saturday last he addressed the annual conference of the U.S. Peace Council in New York.

Information on the itinerary of the foreign minister was made available to RFG [Radio Free Grenada] news by Ian Jacobs, who is at Grenada's New York mission:

[Begin recording] During that address, the minister stressed Grenada's commitment to the struggle for world peace and security. Addressing a gathering of over 200 delegates from across the United States, Comrade Whiteman highlighted the urgent need for a new world economic order as a vital prerequisite for the achievement of a meaningful and lasting world peace. Following this meeting, Comrade Whiteman held informal talks with various delegations attending the meeting. This was followed by informal talks and gatherings with various Grenadian nationals resident in the New York metropolitan area on both Saturday and Sunday. [end recording]

Brother Jacobs said that Brother Whiteman also had a number of other important meetings during his current tour. [Begin recording] On the morning of Monday, November 16th, Comrade Whiteman met with media and academic representatives at the Inter-American Institute in New York. Later on Monday, Comrade Whiteman arrived in Washington, D.C., where he paid a courtesy call on Mr Marion Barry, the mayor of Washington. This was followed by a meeting with Congressman Mervyn Dymally, the chairman of the Caribbean Committee of the Congressional Black Caucus. The minister later taped a television interview for the American Black Forum, a leading black-sponsored [words indistinct] program in the United States. The program was hosted by the prominent black spokesman, Julian Bond. [end recording]

He added that during all his meetings, Brother Whiteman expressed Grenada's concern for the increased tensions in the Caribbean and repeated the call for the Caribbean to be declared a zone of peace. [Begin recording] During all of these events, Comrade Whiteman expressed Grenada's concern over the heightening of tensions in the Caribbean region, a situation caused by U.S. military maneuvers in the area. At the same time, Comrade Whiteman stressed Grenada's commitment to maintaining the Caribbean as a zone of peace. In this context, he called for a meeting between the leaders of the United States and the PRG aimed at reducing tension in the area. Comrade Whiteman is continuing his [word indistinct] of engagements which includes meetings with various congressmen and representatives of the Congressional Black Caucus. [end recording]

JAMAICA

DEBATE ON CENSURE, BREAK WITH CUBA GOES ON

FL180002 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] The debate on the censure motion against opposition member Dr D.K. Duncan and approving the diplomatic break with Cuba continued in Parliament today. Before the 5 o'clock tea break, speakers were Mr Everald Warmington, Dr Mavis Gilmore, Miss Princess Lawes, Mr Brascoe Lee and opposition member Mr Dudley Thompson, who had earlier joined leader of opposition business, Mr Seymour Mullings, in a walkout in protest against certain remarks made by Mr Warmington against former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr P.J. Patterson. The government members repeatedly accused the opposition PNP [People's National Party] of implied compliance with the communists. And Miss Lawes made allegations about secret meetings in which subversion is being planned such as setting of fires, destruction of water supplies and shooting incidents, but she gave no details.

Mr Thompson said that the government members seemed to be making a case that because the opposition did not agree with the diplomatic break with Cuba, the PNP were against Jamaica. Mr Dudley Thompson said the matter is not a question of whether one is for Cuba or for Jamaica and while the opposition cannot support the break, the reason for which it was taken nor the manner of the break, the PNP holds Jamaica first. Mr Thompson said that what is at stake is the good name of Jamaica in international relations as there were certain diplomatic options open to Jamaica which were not exercised instead of the very drastic step which falls just short of a declaration of war. He said that certain legal steps to retrieve people from another country should have been taken and failure to take such steps could lead to charges that Jamaica is inept or insincere.

Mr Thompson said also that it appeared that the minister of national security seems to be confusing crime with terrorism and he pointed out that there is a difference. Terrorism is crime with a political motive, Mr Thompson said, as he warned that Jamaica is seeing a very subtle and dangerous thing taking place as it appears that crime is being put in a political scenario and this could be the beginning of a civil war. Mr Thompson said that under democracy the opposition has a right to state where it believes government is wrong.

He said that the PNP under its present leadership will never become nor support a communist party in Jamaica. And dealing with pro-communist allegations against the PNP, Mr Thompson recalled that the JLP [Jamaica Labor Party] only a few weeks ago sent a mission to Russia and it was the JLP administration which first formed diplomatic ties with communist Yugoslavia.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

PRESIDENT CLARKE SWEARS IN NEW CABINET

FL172124 Bridgetown CANA in English 2112 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, 17 Nov (CANA) -- Prime Minister George Chambers and the following ministers were sworn in here today by President Ellis Clarke:

George Chambers	Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning
Errol Mahabir	Minister of Labor, Social Security and Cooperatives
Kamaluddin Mohammad	Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production
Overand Padmore	Minister of Education
Cuthbert Joseph	Minister of Community Development and Local Government
John Donaldson	Minister of National Security
Desmond Cartey	Minister of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Affairs
Patrick Manning	Minister of Energy and Natural Resources
Hugh Francis	Minister of Works, Maintenance and Drainage
Marilyn Gordon	Minister of Sport, Culture and Youth Affairs
Ronald Williams	Minister of State Enterprises
Russell Martineau	Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs
Dr Basil Ince	Minister of External Affairs
Dr Neville Connell	Minister of Health and the Environment
Wendell Mottley	Minister of Housing and Resettlement
John Eckstein	Minister of Public Utilities and National Transport
Muriel Green	Minister of Information
Elmina Clarke-Allen	Minister in the Ministry of Housing and Resettlement
Norma Lewis-Phillips	Minister in the Ministry of Health and the Environment
Muriel Donawa-McDavidson	Minister in the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development
Charles Jacelon	Minister in the Ministry of Finance and Planning
Carlton Alert	Minister in the Ministry of Legal Affairs

DOMINICAN REPUBLICPENA GOMEZ WELCOMES REAGAN'S REMARK ON U.S. TROOPS

FL121319 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Dr Jose Franciso Pena Gomez said yesterday that President Ronald Reagan's announcement Tuesday that U.S. soldiers will not go fight in other countries was positive. Reagan's statement goes a long way to easing tensions in Central America and the Caribbean, the secretary general of the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] emphasized. It is a positive stand, the PRD leader noted [words indistinct] made by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig. Pena Gomez explained that in view of Haig's statements, the PRD Executive Committee was going to issue a communique condemning any violation of the sovereignty of the countries of the region by troops from the United States or any other nation.

Pena Gomez added that, in addition, he had also planned to send messages to democratic parties of Latin America to launch a campaign to repudiate any intervention in the continent. However, he added, in light of President Reagan's statement that U.S. soldiers will not die in other countries, any protest against Haig's earlier statements is now unnecessary.

GUYANA'NO TRUTH' IN SURINAME'S 'ALLEGATIONS'

FL111748 Bridgetown CANA in English 1653 GMT 11 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Georgetown, Guyana, 11 Nov (CANA) -- Minister of Foreign Affairs Rashleigh Jackson has said here that there was no truth in allegations by the Suriname Government that Guyana had violated Suriname's territorial integrity early this month. He said that Guyana would be issuing a full reply shortly.

According to Guyana, a local aircraft on commercial charter and carrying live pigs and pork products consigned to a Surinamese importer, landed at Zandery Airport last week after receiving permission to do so. Relations between Guyana and Suriname received a setback recently when Guyana closed its government sponsored booth at a Suriname trade fair after Suriname insisted on the removal from display there of a map of Guyana that included the New River triangle claimed by Suriname.

There has also been an indefinite shelving of plans for the signing of an agreement, over the use by Suriname of waters from rivers in the border region, for a World Bank-supported hydroelectric scheme at Kabalebo. Suriname needs Guyana's approval in order to finalize the loan, but the issue of rights to the waters flowing up to the proposed dam remains unsolved.

More on Alleged Violation

FL121740 Bridgetown CANA in English 1644 GMT 12 Nov 81

[By Mike James]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 12 Nov (CANA) -- The Guyana Ministry of Foreign Affairs has admitted that the pilots and service personnel of a Guyana Government aircraft, said by Suriname to have violated that country's airport regulations, were members of the Guyana Defence Force [GDF]. The ministry said it had expressed regret that their attire might have caused misunderstanding at Suriname's Zandery Airport where the plane landed on 3 November. But the ministry has denied Suriname allegations that authorization was not obtained for the flight or that on two occasions last week shots were fired from Guyana at a Suriname border post.

The ministry's statement said that a Government of Guyana aircraft, under commercial charter to export from Guyana a consignment of live pigs for breeding purposes, landed at Zandery Airport in Suriname after the necessary authorization for the flight had been sought by Guyanese authorities and approved by their appropriate Surinamese counterparts.

"That the pilot, co-pilot and service personnel were members of the GDF is not an unusual practice," said the statement, "for the GDF supplements facilities of the Guyana Airways Corporation on commercial flights whenever that corporation is unable to satisfy personnel requirement."

The ministry said it regarded the flight as part of the process for promoting economic co-operation and good-neighbourly relations between Guyana and Suriname and that it "regrets that the attitude of the GDF personnel functioning in a commercial way has perhaps led to a misunderstanding."

Responding to Suriname complaints that on two occasions shots were fired at a Suriname military post and generator at Coeroeni, the Foreign Affairs Ministry said investigations had revealed that no shots were fired from the Guyana side and that in any event, the Government of Guyana does not maintain a military post in the area.

"In what appears to be an attempt to internationalize the issue," said the statement, "it is understood that the Suriname delegation attending the current Caribbean Development Cooperation Committee meeting in Grenada raised the allegations at the opening session on Monday, 9 November."

The ministry expressed its regret at that development, and also over demonstrations by schoolchildren outside the Guyana Embassy in Paramaribo, the Suriname capital.

The ministry's statement confirmed that a formal note on the issue was received from the Ministry of Justice and Foreign Affairs of Suriname on 9 November, and said a formal reply was being sent.

The statement added that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs wished to reaffirm the well-known position of the Government of Guyana of desiring to maintain and develop friendly and good-neighbourly relations with the Government of Suriname, in accordance with the norms of international law and on the basis of mutual respect and sovereign equality.

Contacted by CANA, the deputy ambassador of Suriname in Guyana, Mr Otmar Botse, said that his country was taking a serious view of the issue and that the resident ambassador in Guyana, now on a visit to Trinidad and Tobago, had been recalled directly to Paramaribo for consultations.

Countries Close to Break

PA121619 Paris AFP in Spanish 1441 GMT 11 Nov 81

[Text] Georgetown, 11 Nov (AFP) -- Suriname and Guyana are on the verge of breaking or suspending their diplomatic relations, according to local observers.

The observers base their impressions on the Suriname reaction to a military incident involving Guyanese soldiers in neighboring Suriname territory and, furthermore, after learning from reliable sources that Ambassador Otmar Pocorni has been quickly recalled to Paramaribo by his government.

A student demonstration was staged yesterday in the capital of Suriname in front of the Guyanese Embassy to protest the incident.

Guyana and Suriname have an unresolved border dispute, it was recalled here.

Yesterday the government of Georgetown denied any warlike intention against Suriname and dismissed the importance of the confusing incident.

According to Suriname charges, six Guyanese military personnel alighted from an aircraft at the international airport of Zandery and opened fire.

According to Paramaribo radio monitored here today, the Suriname authorities requested a formal explanation of the incident from the government of Georgetown, but the Guyanese authorities have not responded to the request, according to the same source.

The Guyanese report notes, for its part, that the aircraft involved had the proper Suriname authorization and was legally engaged in transporting pork.

BURNHAM CONGRATULATES TRINIDAD PRIME MINISTER

FL111822 Bridgetown CANA in English 1340 GMT 11 Nov 81

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 11 Nov (CANA) --Guyana's president, Forbes Burnham, has sent the following message to the Trinidad and Tobago prime minister, George Chambers, following his party's sixth consecutive victory at the polls on Monday.

The message reads: "I send you warmest congratulations and felicitations on the resounding victory of your party at the polls. I look forward to continued flow of cooperation between our two countries for the mutual benefit of our respective peoples and of CARICOM as a whole."

SURINAME

COUNTRY TO TAKE GRIEVANCES TO OAS, SELA

FL161330 Bridgetown CANA in English 2100 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, 14 Nov (CANA) -- Suriname, whose diplomatic relations with neighboring Guyana have been worsening, says it will take its disputes to several international bodies, including the Organisation of American States (OAS).

Foreign Minister Harvey Naarendorp of Suriname intends to raise its grievances at the Latin American Economic System (SELA) meeting in Panama on November 23 and the permanent council meeting of the Organisation of American States (OAS) in St Lucia opening on December 2, the statement said.

Suriname and Guyana have a long-standing dispute about 6,000 square miles of territory in western Guyana which the Surinamers claim. Relations worsened recently with Suriname criticizing Georgetown's delay in signing a non-objection pact regarding a big Suriname hydropower project which would use water from the Corentyne River on the two countries border. Guyana recently denied allegations that a Guyanese aircraft landed at Zandery Airport in Suriname without authorisation and that shots were fired twice from Guyana at a Suriname border post.

Last month the Guyana Embassy in Paramaribo closed its booth at a trade fair following protests by the Suriname Government about the display of a map listing part of Suriname as Guyanese territory. Guyana also has a territorial dispute with Venezuela which claims five-eighths of Guyana.

Bouterse Warning

FL162007 Bridgetown CANA in English 1917 GMT 16 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Paramaribo, Suriname, 16 Nov (CANA) -- The head of the Suriname Army, Lt Col Daysi Bouterse, said last night that the Government of Suriname will not do anything unnecessary that will worsen relations with Guyana, but at the same time he warned that Suriname will not stand further humiliation from the neighboring Cooperative Republic [of Guyana]. The army chief's comments followed claims by the military-backed government here of the landing of Guyanese uniformed soldiers in the county on a Guyana airways plane, and of two shootings at the Suriname Army post in a district called Caroní. Guyana and Venezuela also have a border dispute.

Flanked by Foreign Minister Dr Harvey Naarendorp and Deputy Army Chief Maj Roy Horb on a special television program, Bouterse declared: "We are aware of our responsibility. That is the reason why we will not take any unnecessary steps that would affect our relations with Guyana. But we will not tolerate further humiliation. If this continues, we will have no choice but to strike back," the army chief declared.

The army chief referred to the large number of Guyanese living and working in Suriname as "our brothers who are making a contribution to the development of the country, which is greatly appreciated by the government." He said that many of them have become citizens of Suriname.

GOVERNMENT, REBUTS EUROPEAN PARTY'S CRITICISM

FL162240 Bridgetown CANA in English 1645 GMT 15 Nov 81

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, 15 Nov (CANA) -- The Suriname Government has reacted angrily to a resolution passed by the European Peoples Party (EPP) in Brussels expressing dissatisfaction with the state of democracy in this former Dutch colony run by a military-backed government.

In an official statement the cabinet of President Henk Chin A Sen said the resolution reveals that the EPP does not understand the circumstances of Suriname, where there was a change of government following a coup last year.

The EPP said that the suspension of the constitution, the abolishing of Parliament and the imprisoning of persons was not compatible with democratic government. It also said it did not see the promise of President Chin A Sen that democracy would be restored, being fulfilled.

The Suriname Government statement said that a new constitution was being discussed and that eventually the Suriname people will vote on it. It said an assembly will be formed as a lead-up to the which will be established under the new constitution. [sentence as received]

The government statement said that the working of the Parliament before the February 1980 coup was in fact a misleading of the people of Suriname. To prevent a return to that situation, suspension of the constitution, the abolishing of Parliament for the time being and the ruling by decree was inevitable, it claimed.

This, emphasized the statement, shows that human rights are respected and that nobody has been imprisoned because of political reasons.

3 DAYS OF TALKS WITH CUBA RESULT IN COMMUNIQUE

FL141703 Bridgetown CANA in English 1633 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, 14 Nov (CANA) -- Suriname and Cuba have announced measures to strengthen relations between the countries.

A Suriname Foreign Ministry statement issued here after 3 days of talks between President Henk Chin A Sen and Foreign Minister Harvey Naarendorp and a Cuban delegation headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon, said that the two countries will accredit charges d'affaires in each other's capitals, Paramaribo and Havana.

An official Suriname mission will go to Cuba next month for talks on trade, with the two governments hoping that out of the discussions a trade agreement will emerge. The countries were said to be looking into the possibility of a cultural relations agreement.

The statement said that Foreign Minister Naarendorp told Mr Alarcon that participation in the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), the Caribbean Development Committee for Cooperation (CDCC) and the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), among others, offered a good opportunity to be in discussions on developments in the region. Suriname was in favor of all states in the Caribbean participating in the CBI, the announcement said.

Foreign Minister Naarendorp briefed Mr Alarcon on relations between Suriname and Guyana soured by a border dispute. At a press conference, the Cuban deputy foreign minister said his country hoped that the differences between Suriname and Guyana will be settled peacefully and in accordance with international law. He said his delegation became aware of the present impasse between Suriname and Guyana when they arrived in Paramaribo. They had not discussed the issue with the Guyana Government in Georgetown.

VENEZUELA

ZAMBRANO FAVORS CLEARLY MARKING BORDER

PA162241 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1725 GMT 16 Nov 81

[Text] Caracas, 16 Nov (EFE) -- The land boundary between Colombia and Venezuela is unmarked, according to Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco. In a statement published today in the local papers, Zambrano Velasco explained that it is necessary to place visible markers. He admitted that the present markers are inadequate. The people who live in the border area need to know exactly where the boundary is.

Zambrano Velasco's statement was in reply to Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds' proposal that the border between the two countries be marked so that citizens of both countries could avoid crossing into foreign territory for lack of knowledge of the area.

According to Zambrano Velasco, the demarcation process is conducted through common agreement. It is a routine technical task carried out by experts of the joint commissions.

The Venezuelan foreign minister also referred to the recent border incidents. He noted that it is important to establish the facts and circumstances in each case to avoid recurrence. Explaining that the Foreign Ministry works in cooperation with the Venezuelan border authorities, civilians and military, Zambrano Velasco said that he considers the public statements made on the matter of little value.